ABSTRACT

In a managing router (communication device) managing a mobile node, the managing router releases an older tunnel already established so as to prevent the number of all tunnels established between the managing communication device itself and an accommodating router of a mobile node from exceeding e.g. a predetermined threshold value. Also, when the number of all tunnels presently established for all mobile nodes exceeds a predetermined threshold value, the managing router rejects a new tunnel establishment, or releases an older tunnel to establish a new tunnel. Also, by classifying the mobile nodes into a plurality of classes based on a plurality of threshold values, the establishment of the new tunnel is rejected or executed based on the threshold value corresponding to the class to which the mobile node belongs. Furthermore, the managing router determines a lifetime of a tunnel established between the communication device itself and the accommodating router of the mobile node, based on the number of all (working) tunnels presently established by the communication device itself.